new fangles

Number 3, July 1967, Bimonthly from Don & Maggie Thompson,
Mentor, Ohio, U.S.A. 44060 at 25¢ for 3 issues or for news items.

What's the good of editing a newszine if you can't brag a little?

VALERIE IS BORN!

The editors of NEWFANGLES, whose previous efforts at reproduction have produced only fanzines, have finally entered the big leagues and produced a person.

Her name is Valerie Lee Thompson.

She was born 20 July 1967, at 2:45 a.m., at which time she weighed five pounds, 15 ounces. She had (and, for that matter, still has) a full head of brown hair.

All the bills aren't in yet, but it looks as though she'll cost less than her weight in All-Star Comics. (But I'm told the upkeep is fierce.)

Mother and father are overjoyed.

News about NEWFANGLES: We announced, when we started this estimable publication, that we were not prepared to guarantee that there would be more than four issues, unless interest warranted. Interest, we are glad to say, warrants. We will continue publishing NEWFANGLES for an indefinite period.

You may now subscribe beyond issue #6, but we'd still prefer that you hold it down to three issues at a time so that, if we have to fold, we won't have to refund a fortune.

And be advised: When the postal rates go up [and they will soon], the price of NEWFANGLES will be a straight 10¢ a copy. Long-term subs will be adjusted accordingly.

Bob Butts, we understand, has been drafted. He didn't tell us about it; we read of it in Bob Greene's Datelines: Comicdom, where Bob (Butts) gave us a rather puzzling review. He seems to feel NEWFANGLES is a lot of work (it is a snap; no collating) and is baffled by what we mean when we say we'll publish news of "drastic alterations in the lives of fans." Well, we might mean something like when you're drafted, Bob, baby. Why didn't you tell us and get a free issue for sending in a news item?

The Australian ZIPcode mentioned last issue is called Postcode, but we know where they got the idea, don't we, Yanks?

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES WITH ISSUE NUMBER _____. WELL?

An Ed Wheelan Memorial Fund has been started by the Fort Myers Beach Art Association Inc. to assist in building an art center. Ed, for the benefit of younger fans, drew a strip called Minute Movies in which he introduced the concept of serious continuity into newspaper comicstrips. He died last summer. Donations to the fund are tax deductible and Ed's heart was in this project. Checks may be made payable to Fort Myers Beach Art Association Inc. and sent to the association at 3001 Estero Blvd., Ft. Myers Beach, Fla. 33931.

We checked the above with Ed's widow. It is a legitimate cause and a good one.

Comic Fans Have Done It Again. Los Angeles fans offered free cover art for fanzines in exchange for support of their bid for the world science fiction convention. Los Angeles s-f fans, that is. This offer has been withdrawn, largely because a certain group of comic fans with expressed intentions of taking over comicfandom has abused the offer by demanding art for each of a multitude of shoddy fly-by-night fanzines (of which few see more than one issue). We will not name this group, but any fan who has had dealings with them should have no trouble recognising them. Thanks a glob, fellas.

Changes of Address:
Kim Weston, Baltimore, Md. 21218
Richard Tatge, Ft. Devens, Mass.
01433 (I love it when the ZIPcode adds a line, don't you?)

Well, we seem to have run out of news, so I'll tell you about Valerie... (Actually, we have some pro news, but that's not what We're here for.)

A Book of Interest to comicfans has been published by Tower Press Inc., P.O. Box 412, Danvers, Mass. 01923. Title is Cavalcade of Old Time Comic Strips and editor is Edward Kutlowski. Price is $2.

It contains 71 pages of Sunday comics from 1905 through the 1930's. We are at a loss to think of a better bargain for comic strip fans.

It contains all the famous strips (Winsor Movies, Little Jimmy, Krazy Kat, Flash Gordon) and several you never heard of. Some of those latter are wretchedly bad, but there's always historical importance to cover up for the flaws.

The commentary is poor, badly researched (Frank "Gasoline Alley" King and Martin "Winnie Winkle" Brenner have not "gone" or "passed away.") and very badly proofread (Opper is rendered -- and that's the word -- as "Offer," "Opfer"; Cliff Sterrett becomes "Starett" and "Stonett"; Harold Knerr is listed as "Knerr" and "Knair") and often misleading (an early "Blondie" suitor is incorrectly identified as Dagwood).

But the strips are what you buy the book for and they represent a real bargain. (Though I'm stonkered by "Today no self respecting newspaper dares to issue an edition without at least a page of comics." Has the New York Times no self-respect? The Wall St. Journal? Variety?)

Best of all, this collection is prominently labeled "Book Number One."

People Keep Saying that there should be enough news to justify putting this zine out more often than bimonthly. We agree, but no one seems to be sending it to us. See you in September.